(c) Two ex-Criminal Tribes members were provided with jobs in the Department of Harijan Welfare during 1954–55. No member belonging to ex-Criminal Tribes is employed in the offices of the District Welfare Officers.

Higher Elementary Schools in the South Kanara district

* 3144 *Q.*—SRI M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received by the Government to open Higher Elementary Schools in the South Kanara district in the year 1954–55; and

(b) the number of Higher Elementary Schools opened by the Government in the district during the said period?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) Number of applications received for opening higher elementary standards in—

(i) District Board Schools	6
(ii) Aided Management Schools	46
	52

(b) Number of schools permitted to open higher standards—

(i) District Board Schools	4
(ii) Aided Management Schools	14
	18

(Starred question No. 3145—postponed.)

Tank Restoration Scheme

* 3146 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state why the Tank Restoration scheme has not been introduced in Pudukottai Division of Tiruchirappalli district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : No regular Tank Restoration Scheme party is working anywhere in the State. The regular Public Works Department staff and the Food Production Engineering staff are, however, attending to the investigation and execution of repairs to irrigation sources under the Intensive Cultivation and Special Minor Irrigation Programmes.

Use of electric energy in industrial concerns

* 3147 *Q.*—SRI M. PALANIYANDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any general restriction for using electric energy between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. by all industries and if so, the reasons therefor?

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THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: Restriction is being enforced on the use of electric energy during the evening peak load period between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. daily only in respect of industries availing of L.T. Power. The general over-all power position in the areas served by the Madras Electricity Grid still remains far from satisfactory. The extra generating capacity now available over and above that to meet the existing demand is only just adequate to meet the load commitments already made and the normal growth of existing loads. If the restriction is relaxed now, the demand will shoot up to the full capacity of the Grid and all further developments will have to stop. Therefore it will not be possible to remove the restriction in force till such time as there is an improvement in the power position by the completion and bringing into operation of the Madras III Plant extension scheme and the Periyar Hydro-Electric Project.

Exemption from passing Account Test

* 3148 *Q.*—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of Headmasters and Headmistresses in Coimbatore district that applied for exemption from passing the Account Test due to their old age and the number exempted?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Five, Sir; all the five headmasters have been exempted from passing the Test in Accounts having regard to the fact that they have already completed 50 years of age.

(Starred question No. 3149—Postponed.)

Food-poisoning in the hostel attached to Raja's College, Tiruvaiyaru

* 3150 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of any case of food-poisoning in the hostel attached to Raja's College of Sanskrit and Tamil Studies, Tiruvaiyaru, Tanjore district, on 8th August 1955; and

(*b*) if so, how it happened and how many were affected?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is laid on the table of the House.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 87-88 infra.